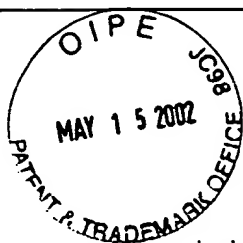


1631

ARNOLD & PORTER



May 14, 2002

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

MAY 16 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/553,094
Filed: April 18, 2000
For: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated
with Plants**
Inventors: Scott ANDERSON *et al.*
Our Ref: 16517.001/38-21(15503)B

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents for appropriate action by the
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action; and
2. Return postcard.

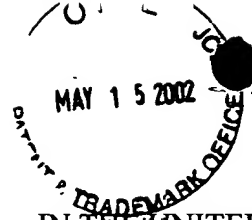
Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and
return it to our courier.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are required with the submission of this
filing. If, however, any fees are due in conjunction with this filing, including any
extension of time fees required to prevent abandonment of this application, then such
extension fees are hereby petitioned, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any
fee deficiency and/or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 50-1824,
referencing matter number 16517.001/38-21(15503)B. A duplicate copy of this letter is
enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)
June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,741)
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

Attachments



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Scott ANDERSON *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/553,094

Filed: April 18, 2000

For: *Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Plants*

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: M. MORAN

Atty. Docket: 16517.001/38-21(15503)B

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MAY 16 2002
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#10/A

P/unk
8/6/02

Amendment and Response to Office Action

Box Non-fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 15, 2002, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph on page 5, lines 16-23 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Similarity analysis includes database search and alignment. Examples of public databases include the DNA Database of Japan (DDBJ) (www-ddbj.nig.ac.jp/); Genbank (www-ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/web/Genbank/Index.html); and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory Nucleic Acid Sequence Database (EMBL) (www-edi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/embl_db.html). A number of different search algorithms have been developed, one example of which are the suite of programs referred to as BLAST programs. There are five implementations of BLAST, three designed for nucleotide sequence queries (BLASTN, BLASTX, and TBLASTX) and two designed for protein

OK